

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00487 231118Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IO-10 SAM-01 /071 W

----- 007344

R 230850Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8041

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 0487

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, KS

SUBJECT: ROKG DEFINES REFERENDUM LAW; NDP

CONSIDERS BOYCOTT

REF: SEOUL 0487

1. INDICATIONS ARE THAT FORTHCOMING REFERENDUM ON PARK'S GOVERNMENT WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER STRICT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY 1973 LAW ON REFERENDUMS.

2. RESTRICTIONS INCLUDE BAN ON SUCH REFERENDUM CAMPAIGNING MEANS AS POSTERS, LEAFLETS, BROADCASTS, SPEECHES OR SIGNATURE DRIVES. PUBLIC DEBATE, DEMONSTRATIONS AND HOUSE-TO-HOUSE CANVASSING ARE ALSO ILLEGAL. CITIZEN MAY INDICATE HOW HE WILL VOTE OR TELL ANOTHER CITIZEN NOT TO VOTE BUT HE MAY NOT LEGALLY FOLLOW THIS UP WITH ARGUMENTS ON REFERENDUM, PRO OR CON. THERE ALSO WILL BE "NO PUBLICIZING OF FALSE FACTS".

3. CENTRAL ELECTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, (CEMC), ANNOUNCED THAT FOUR-MAN POLLING OBSERVER TEAMS WILL CONSIST OF TWO PERSONS SELECTED BY CEMC, ONE SELECTED BY DRP AND ONE BY NDP (NEITHER OF LATTER TWO CAN BE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00487 231118Z

PARTY MEMBER). BALLOT COUNTING OBSERVER TEAMS WILL

CONSIST OF SIX MEN -- TWO EACH SELECTED BY CEMC,
DRP AND NDP. (OPPOSITION PARTY DID NOT HAVE THIS
NOMINATION ROLE DURING 1972 CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM.)

4. LOCAL RADIO REPORTS KIM YONG SAM CALLED NDP
SECRETARY GENERAL, YU CHI SONG, AND TOLD HIM TO
BOYCOTT REFERENDUM AND TO HOLD NDP POLITICAL COUNCIL
MEETING TODAY TO FORMALLY APPROVE BOYCOTT. NDP ACTING
CHAIRMAN HAS TOLD PRESS HE WAS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING
ASKING FOR CONVOCAION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION
SO NATION COULD HEAR ROKG EXPLAIN ITS REASONS BEHIND
REFERENDUM.

5. LOCAL RADIO IS ALSO CARRYING STORY THAT KOREAN
AMBASSADOR TO U.S. MET WITH 30 AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN
TO EXPLAIN REFERENDUM AND FOUND THEIR REACTION TO IT
WAS "VERY GOOD".

6. VICE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER KIM CHIN-MAN OF GOVERNMENT'S
YUCHONGHOE GROUP TOLD POLITICAL COUNSELOR JANUARY 23
THAT ROKG WAS ACUTELY AWARE THAT A GOVERNMENT VICTORY
WHICH SEEMED TO BE RIGGED OR WHICH WAS ACHIEVED IN
ATMOSPHERE OF REPRESSION WOULD CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN
IT SOLVED. HE SAID GOVERNMENT WANTED TO RUN AS CLEAN
A REFERENDUM AS POSSIBLE; HE WAS WORRIED HOWEVER
ABOUT ZEALOUS PARTY, POLICE, AND KCIA OFFICIALS ON
LOWER LEVELS.
ERICSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, REFERENDUMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL00487
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750025-0699
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750126/aaaaawwg.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SEOUL 0487
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROKG DEFINES REFERENDUM LAW; NDP CONSIDERS BOYCOTT
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006